

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Walter D. Miller was born on October 5, 1925, at Viewfield, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Walter D., a life-long rancher in western South Dakota, used his experience to tackle the elements and day-to-day struggles of prairie life to help shape South Dakota history; and,

Whereas, Walter D. served 20 years as a Meade County school board member, served 20 years in the South Dakota House of Representatives holding every House leadership position except the minority leader, served on the Legislative Research Council's Executive Board, and chaired standing committees on local government, taxation, state affairs, and legislative procedure; and,

Whereas, Walter D. Miller became the first full-time Lieutenant Governor upon election in 1986 and reelection in 1990, taking a hands-on role in guiding efforts that resulted in the Rural Development Telecommunications Network (currently known as the Dakota Digital Network), one of the nation's first interactive communications systems, and in 1992, was chosen by his colleagues as chairman-elect of the National Conference of Lieutenant Governors; and,

Whereas, Walter D. Miller became the 29th Governor of South Dakota on April 20, 1993, due to a tragic accident, and has been praised for his strong leadership and sensitivity during an unfortunate and difficult time in South Dakota's history as he successfully dealt with a state prison riot, damaging floods, rural development, worker's compensation reform legislation, and brokered bipartisan compromises on health care reform and prison spending; and,

Whereas, Governor Walter D. Miller has held Republican Party positions at every organizational level from precinct to national committeeman, and served Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush as state campaign chair and co-chair; and,

Whereas, Governor Walter D. Miller credits his faith and family as the foundation for his many accomplishments in life, and a commitment to his wife, Pat, 6 children, 13 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and his late wife, Mary, allows him the right to hold the most prestigious titles of all—husband, father and grandfather; and,

Whereas, Walter D. will observe his 80th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather on September 4, 2005, to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2005, as

GOVERNOR WALTER D. MILLER DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Ch. Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State